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CYPRUS: The continuing impasse is increasing the chance of violence, and Turkey is showing greater concern that an outbreak of fighting between Greek Cypriots might involve the Turkish community.

Although President Makarios might have been able to accept a compromise on the Czechoslovak arms question, Athens' additional demands that he form a government of national unity, including supporters of General Grivas, and then resign as president were clearly unacceptable. Makarios publicly has rejected them

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The next move appears to be up to the Greeks and Athens may be considering a resort to force.

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Press reports from Ankara reflect the Turkish worry that possible Greek Cypriot clashes could spread to the Turkish community. There are press reports that Ankara has placed some of its forces in southern Turkey on alert. At least one Turkish paper has reported that Grivas could spark an armed confrontation on the island. The Turkish clandestine radio "Voice of Cyprus" has predicted that the end of Makarios seems to be in sight.

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CAMBODIA: Prime Minister Lon Nol's apparent effort to assume the post of chief of state could well revive political tensions in Phnom Penh.

Lon Nol has asked Chief of State Cheng Heng to resign so that he can take over this position.

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There is no evidence that friction with Cheng Heng prompted Lon Nol's decision. Lon Nol has been attempting to push a new constitution through the constituent assembly to pave the way for his election as chief of state of the new republic. The assembly has not responded to the prime minister's urging, however, and he may now have decided he can achieve the same purpose by assuming the position of chief of state first, promulgating the constitution afterwards.

Lon Nol's latest maneuver will not sit well with his many domestic critics, who are likely to interpret it as further evidence of his increasingly authoritarian behavior. Moreover, if Cheng Heng is obdurate, strong countervailing pressure could develop that might cause the prime minister to back down.

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USSR-US: Moscow is exploiting US plans to home port elements of the Sixth Fleet in Greece for a variety of purposes.

The underlying motivation for the diplomatic demarche in Washington was to underscore Moscow's claim to be an equal and as such to be fully entitled to the same kind of overseas basing privileges as Washington. The language of Dobrynin's oral protest of 10 February makes clear that Moscow still feels on the defensive as a result of earlier US approaches over Soviet activities in the Caribbean.

Moscow also seems concerned that US home porting in Greece is aimed at offsetting Soviet capabilities in the eastern Mediterranean. A recent article in the Soviet press said that the redeployment of US naval forces from Spain and Italy to Greece would mean that the US will be able to maintain a "permanent" presence in the eastern Mediterranean, and that henceforth roughly one third of the Sixth Fleet will remain "constantly" in the Mediterranean. It is doubtful that recent US assurances that home porting in Greece is mainly an administrative measure will assuage such Soviet concerns.

Beyond this, the Soviets are also connecting the home porting agreement to the Greek ultimatum to President Makarios. Moscow is simultaneously playing the issue of home porting as part and parcel of Washington's global strategy, allegedly ranging from attempts to turn Cyprus and Malta into "springboards" of aggression in the Middle East to efforts to influence developments further afield in Africa.

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SUDAN: A government delegation headed by Vice President Aliar and including Foreign Minister Khalid opened peace talks yesterday in Addis Ababa with representatives of the Anya-Nya rebels. In addition to the basic substantive difference over the South's unwillingness to be politically dominated by the North, such problems as the disposition of rebel arms and arrangements for policing the cease-fire will be difficult to resolve. Moreover,

[redacted] a major impediment to progress in the discussions is dissension among the rebels themselves as to the terms for a settlement.

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